

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (withdrawn) A method for providing an image on an organic product, the method comprising the steps for:

creating an image on a transfer medium; and
transferring the image onto an organic product.

2. (withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step for creating an image comprises the steps for:

creating a first image on a cliché;
applying ink to the cliché; and
lifting at least a portion of the ink from the cliché to form a second image, wherein the second image is the image created on the transfer medium.

3. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the step for lifting comprises the steps for:

placing the transfer medium in contact with the cliché; and
removing the transfer medium from the cliché.

4. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the step for creating further comprises the step for removing excess ink applied to the cliché.

5. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the step for creating a first image comprises the step for etching the first image into the cliché.

6. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 5, wherein the cliché comprises a photosensitive material.

7. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 6, wherein step for etching comprises the steps for:

providing a third image;

creating a film positive of the third image; and

exposing the photosensitive material through a wash out process to etch the third image into the photosensitive material.

8. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step for allowing the transferred image to set.

9. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the organic product comprises at least a portion of:

(i) a flower;

(ii) a fruit; or

(iii) a plant.

10. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the image transferred onto the organic product comprises at least one of:

- (i) a character;
- (ii) a number;
- (iii) a logo;
- (iv) a picture;
- (v) a symbol;
- (vi) a design;
- (vii) an icon; or
- (viii) a trademark.

11. (currently amended) An organic product having an image thereon, the product comprising:

~~a flower on which an image has been machine printed, wherein the flower~~group of flowers
each having had placed thereon an overlaid identical pad-printed image, wherein each of the
group of flowers is in a natural configuration free of indentations and surface cellular
damage.

12. (currently amended) A product as recited in claim 11, wherein the group of flower
is as comprises roses.

13. (currently amended) A product as recited in claim 11, wherein the image has been ~~machine~~pad-printed on at least one of:

(I) a petal of ~~the~~a flower in the group of flowers; or

(ii) a leaf of ~~the~~a flower in the group of flowers.

14. (original) A product as recited in claim 11, wherein the image includes at least one of:

(I) a character;

(ii) a number;

(iii) a logo;

(iv) a picture;

(v) a symbol;

(vi) a design;

(vii) an icon; or

(viii) a trademark.

15. (currently amended) A product as recited in claim 11, wherein the image has been ~~machine~~pad-printed through a transfer printing technique.

16. (withdrawn) A system for providing an image on an organic product, the system comprising:

a portion of an organic product;

a transfer medium; and

an image, wherein the image is located on a portion of the transfer medium and is used to provide a transferred image onto the organic product.

17. (withdrawn) A system as recited in claim 16, wherein the organic product is a flower.

18. (withdrawn) A system as recite in claim 17, wherein the portion is one of:

(i) a petal; or

(ii) a leaf.

19. (withdrawn) A system as recited in claim 16, further comprising a cliché, wherein the cliché includes an etched image that is at least partially filled with ink to place the image on the portion of the transfer medium

20. (withdrawn) A system as recited in claim 19, wherein the cliché includes a plate, and wherein the transfer medium includes one of:

(i) a pad; or

(ii) a roller.

21. (previously presented) A product as recited in claim 11, wherein the image is a communication to a recipient of the flower.

22. (previously presented) A product as recited in claim 21, wherein the communication is a personalized communication to the recipient of the flower.

23. (previously presented) A product as recited in claim 11, wherein the image commemorates an event.

24. (currently amended) An organic product having an image thereon, the product comprising:

a flower petal on which ~~an~~ a repeatable image has been ~~machine printed~~ overlaid, wherein the petal is detached from the flower ~~and is in a natural configuration~~.

25. (previously presented) A product as recited in claim 24, wherein the flower is a rose.

26. (previously presented) A product as recited in claim 24, wherein the image includes at least one of:

- (I) a character;
- (ii) a number;
- (ix) a logo;
- (x) a picture;
- (xi) a symbol;
- (xii) a design;
- (xiii) an icon; or

(xiv) a trademark.

27. (previously presented) A product as recited in claim 24, wherein the image has been machine printed through a transfer printing technique.

28. (previously presented) A product as recited in claim 24, wherein the image is a communication to a recipient of the flower.

29. (previously presented) A product as recited in claim 28, wherein the communication is a personalized communication to the recipient of the flower.

30. (previously presented) A product as recited in claim 24, wherein the image commemorates an event.

31. (New) A product as recited in claim 11, wherein ink used to create the image dries at substantially the same time.

32. (New) A product as recited in claim 11, wherein the group of flowers is a single flower.

33. (New) A product as recited in claim 24, wherein the petal is not indented.

34. (New) A product as recited in claim 24, wherein the image dries at substantially the same time.

Conclusion

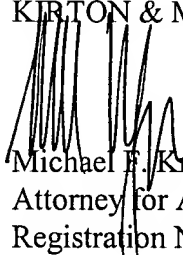
Applicant believes that the preceding Amendment corrects the non-compliant Amendment bringing Applicant's response to the Office Action mailed June 25, 2003 in compliance with the requirements fo 37 CFR 1.121.

Should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with undersigned counsel.

DATED this 6 day of October, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

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